



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Hot Springs National
Park

P. O. Box 1860
Hot Springs AR 71902

501 624-2701
501 624-3458

Hot Springs National Park News Release

January 10, 2005
For Immediate Release
Gail Sears 501- 624- 2701

Bathhouse Rehabilitation Moving Ahead With Second Phase in Progress

In December 2005 the contracting firm for the next phase of bathhouse revitalization, Au' Authum Ki, Inc. (AAK), of Arizona, was awarded the contract to rehabilitate the Lamar and Hale Bathhouses. They have started moving equipment and personnel into place and will be using the lawn area adjacent to the north side of the Superior Bathhouse as a staging area for supplies and equipment.

When completed this phase of work will bring the Lamar and Hale Bathhouses into a leasable condition. They will both have complete electric and plumbing systems installed in order to be ready for a new business to occupy the buildings. Elevators and accessible rest rooms are also being added. General rehabilitation work includes finishing the walls.


The Ozark Bathhouse rehabilitation began in spring 2005. Currently National Park Service preservation crew employees are installing wiring and plumbing, wall finishing, and general interior rehabilitation. A contractor will install an elevator. A lessee will add the finishing touches on the building to suit the new business use.

Last year, each of the six vacant bathhouses on Bathhouse Row was stabilized. All got new insulated roofs and a modern central air conditioning and heating system. Exterior accessibility ramps, improved drainage system to control spring water seeping into the basements and structural support as needed were part of this effort.

The last phase of rehabilitation will be completing work on the Superior and Maurice Bathhouses. That work is expected to begin later in 2006.

The National Park Service is charged by Congress to "preserve and protect" the resources in each park. In order to preserve the integrity of the Bathhouse Row National Historic Landmark District, the National Park Service will lease the vacant bathhouses when rehabilitation is complete.

Currently negotiations are underway with local architects Anthony Taylor and Bob Kempkes, and Don Harper to lease the Quapaw and Maurice Bathhouses. They are proposing to



rehabilitate one building to cater to families and the other to offer a day spa experience. The park is also working with the U.S. Forest Service to move their offices into the Lamar Bathhouse.

Hot Springs National Park is currently accepting proposals for leasing the remaining vacant bathhouses. Once received, the ideas, plans and financial stability of the proposals are scrutinized for the best fit with the historic district and National Park Service mission.

If you are interested in leasing one of the bathhouses, please call the superintendent's office at 501- 623- 2824 or e- mail HOSP_Interpretation@nps.gov.

- NPS-